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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 166487
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INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, MASS, GR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION TESTIMONY ON GREECE, TURKEY, AND CYPRUS BEFORE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE JUNE 28

1. ON JUNE 28 A WELL-ATTENDED SESSION OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES HEARD TESTIMONY FROM SECRETARIES VANCE AND BROWN AND GENERALS JONES AND HAIG REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO IMPOSED
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PAGE 02 STATE 166487

ON TURKEY. IN ATTENDANCE WERE CHAIRMAN STENNIS AND SENATORS GOLDWATER, TOWER, CANNON, CULVER, THURMOND, NUNN, HART AND BARTLETT. IN OPENING THE SESSION CHAIRMAN STENNIS AND SENATOR TOWER MADE INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM.

2. SECRETARY VANCE, SECRETARY BROWN, AND GEN. JONES MADE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

STATEMENTS ALONG LINES OF PREVIOUS APPEARANCES BEFORE HIRC AND SFRC. IN HIS STATEMENT, GEN. HAIG STRESSED THE STRATEGIC GEOGRAPHIC POSITION OF TURKEY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUED TURKISH PARTICIPATION IN NATO -- BUT BALANCED THIS BY POINTING OUT THE VALUE OF GREECE AS AN ALLY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF U.S. INSTALLATIONS IN THAT COUNTRY.

3. QUESTIONS BY SENATORS STENNIS, CANNON, AND NUNN INDICATED CLEAR SYMPATHY FOR ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS.

SENATORS CULVER AND HART POSED CRITICAL QUESTIONS REFLECTING CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM OVER BASING REPEAL OF THE EMBARGO ON TURKEY'S MILITARY IMPORTANCE. SENATOR CULVER PRESSED GENERAL HAIG PARTICULARLY HARD ON TWO POINTS: (A) HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE USE OF NAMSA TO CHANNEL $30 MILLION WORTH OF ARMS TO TURKEY DURING THE EMBARGO, AND (B) HIS ROLE IN THE VETO OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE TO CUT OFF AID TO THE GREEK MILITARY JUNTA.

4. THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED FOR ONE HOUR IN CLOSED SESSION AFTERNOON JUNE 28 TO RECEIVE FURTHER TESTIMONY FROM SECRETARIES VANCE AND BROWN, AND GENERALS JONES AND HAIG.

5. EXTRACTS FROM THE TRANSCRIPTS WILL BE SENT AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE. VANCE
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